

05-23-00

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Patent  
254/138  
P97-0041US3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Anticipated Classification of this application:  
Class \_\_\_\_\_ Subclass \_\_\_\_\_  
Prior application: 09/193,746  
Examiner: Keenan, J.  
Art Unit: 3652

BOX PATENT APPLICATION  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

FILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(B)

This is a request for filing for a

☒ continuation ☐ divisional

application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 08/845,662, filed on April 25, 1997, of

Raymon F. THOMPSON, Robert W. BERNER, Gary L. CURTIS, Stephen P. CULLITON,  
Blaine G. WRIGHT, AND Darryl S. BYLE

for: SEMICONDUCTOR PROCESSING SYSTEM WITH WAFER CONTAINER  
DOCKING AND LOADING STATION

1. COPY OF PRIOR APPLICATION AS FILED WHICH IS ATTACHED

☒ I hereby verify that the attached papers are a true and complete copy of what is shown in my records to be the above-identified prior application, including the oath or declaration as originally filed. (37 CFR 1.53)

57 Pages of Specification  
18 Pages of Claims  
1 Pages of Abstract  
42 Sheets of Drawings ☒ formal ☐ Informal  
4 Pages of Declaration

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
(37 C.F.R. §1.10)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

EL556592651US  
Express Mail Label No.

May 22, 2000  
Date of Deposit  
LA-146014.1

Laura Murphy  
Name of Person Mailing Paper  
Laura Murphy  
Signature of Person Mailing Paper

05/22/00  
jc823 U.S. PTO

jc808 U.S. PTO  
09/575551  
05/22/00

09575551-09575551

- ☐ In accordance with the indication required by 37 CFR 1.53(b), my records reflect that the original signed declaration showing applicants' signature was filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ The amendment referred to in the declaration filed to complete the prior application, and I hereby state, in accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.53(b), that this amendment did not introduce new matter therein.

**2. AMENDMENTS**

- ☒ Cancel in this application original Claims 1-55 of the prior application before calculating the filing fee. (At least one original independent claim must be retained for filing purposes.)
- ☒ A Preliminary Amendment is enclosed. (Claims added by Amendment must be numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered original claim in the prior application.)

**3. INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

- ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement, PTO 1449, and references are submitted herewith.

**4. PETITION FOR SUSPENSION OF PROSECUTION FOR THE TIME TO FILE AN AMENDMENT**

- ☐ There is provided herewith a PETITION FOR SUSPENSION OF PROSECUTION FOR THE TIME NECESSARY TO FILE AN AMENDMENT (NEW APPLICATION FILED CONCURRENTLY).

**5. FEE CALCULATION**

<b>BASIC FILING FEE:</b>				<b>\$690.00</b>
Total Claims	8	- 20	= 0 x \$18	\$0.00
Independent Claims	1	- 1	= 0 x \$78	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims			\$260 (if applicable)	
Surcharge 37 CFR 1.16(e)			\$130 (if applicable)	
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS</b>				<b>\$690.00</b>
Reduction by ½ for Filing by Small Entity. Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28. If applicable, Verified Statement must be attached.				\$0.00
Misc. Filing Fees (Recordation of Assignment)				
<b>TOTAL FEES SUBMITTED HEREWITH</b>				<b>\$690.00</b>

- ☐ The fee for extra claims is not being paid at this time.

☐ Filing Fee Calculation \$760.00

**6. SMALL ENTITY STATUS**

☐ A Verified Statement to establish small entity under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 is attached  
has been filed in the prior application and such status is still proper and desired. [37  
CFR 1.28(a)]

Filing Fee Calculation (50% of above) \$0.00

**7. DRAWINGS**

[NOTE: DO NOT CHECK THIS IF PRIOR CASE IS NOT TO BE ABANDONED.]

☐ Transfer the drawings from the prior application to this application and, subject to  
Item 16 below, abandon said prior application as of the filing date accorded to this  
application. A duplicate copy of this request is enclosed for filing in the prior  
application file.

[May only be used if signed by (1) applicant, (2) assignee of record or (3) attorney or  
agent of record authorized by 37 CFR 1.138 and before payment of issue fee.]

☐ Transfer the following sheet(s) of drawings from the prior application to this  
application.

☒ New drawings are enclosed ☒ formal ☐ informal

**8. PRIORITY - 35 U.S.C. 119**

☐ Priority of application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed on \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ [country] is claimed  
under 35 U.S.C. 119.

☐ The certified copy has been filed in prior U.S. application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ The certified copy will follow.

**9. RELATE BACK - 35 U.S.C. 120**

- ☒ Amend the Specification by inserting on page 1, delete lines 1-3, and add -- This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/193,746, filed November 17, 1998 and now abandoned, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/698,034, filed August 15, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,836,736, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/415,927, filed March 31, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,660,517, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/236,424, filed April 28, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5,544,421...--

**10. INVENTORSHIP STATEMENT**

- ☐ With respect to the prior co-pending U.S. application from which this application claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120, the inventor(s) in this application is (are):
- ☐ the same
  - ☐ less than those named in the prior application and it is requested that the following inventor(s) identified above for the prior application be deleted:  
[type name(s) of inventor(s) to be deleted]
- ☒ The inventorship for all the claims in this application are:
- ☒ the same
  - ☐ not the same, and an explanation, including the ownership of the various claims at the time the last claimed invention was made, is submitted.

**11. ASSIGNMENT**

- ☐ The prior application is assigned of record to .....

-----  
Name of Assignee

-----  
Address of Assignee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of person authorized to sign on behalf of assignee

Assignment recorded in PTO on \_\_\_\_\_, Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frames .....

☐ An Assignment of the invention to \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.

**12. FEE PAYMENT BEING MADE AT THIS TIME**

☐ Not attached. No filing fee is submitted. [This and the surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.16(e) can be paid subsequently.]

☒ Attached.

☒ Filing fee. \$690.00

☐ Recording assignment. [**\$40.00** 37 CFR 1.21(h)(1)] -----  
Petition fee for filing by other than all the inventors or  
person on behalf of the inventor where inventor refused  
to sign or cannot be reached.  
[**\$130.00**; 37 CFR 1.47 and 1.17(h)] -----

☐ Petition fee to Suspend Prosecution for the Time  
Necessary to File an Amendment (New Application Filed  
Concurrently).  
[**\$130.00**; 37 CFR 1.103 and 1.17(i)(1)] -----

☐ For processing an application with a specification  
in a non-English language.  
[**\$130.00**; 37 CFR 1.52(d) and 1.17(k)] -----

☐ Processing and retention fee.  
[**\$130.00**; 37 CFR 1.53(d) and 1.21(l)] -----

**Total Fees Enclosed \$760.00**

**13. METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FEES**

☒ Attached is a check in the amount of \$690.00.

☐ Charge Deposit Account No. **12-2475** in the amount of \$0.00.

**14. AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE ADDITIONAL FEES**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following additional fees by this paper and during the entire pendency of this application to Deposit Account No. **12-2475**:

☒ 37 CFR 1.16 (filing fees)

☒ 37 CFR 1.16 (presentation of extra claims)

- ☐ 37 CFR 1.16(e) (surcharge for filing the basic filing fee and/or declaration on a date later than the filing date of the application)
- ☒ 37 CFR 1.17 (application processing fees)
- ☐ 37 CFR 1.18 (issue fee at or before mailing of Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.311(b))

**15. INSTRUCTIONS AS TO OVERPAYMENT**

- ☒ Credit Deposit Account No. **12-2475**.
- ☐ Refund

**16. POWER OF ATTORNEY**

- ☐ The power of attorney in the prior application is to -----
- ☐ The power appears in the original papers in the prior application.
- ☐ The power does not appear in the original papers, but was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ in this application.
- ☐ A new power has been executed and is attached.
- ☒ Address all future communications to:

LYON & LYON LLP  
Customer No. 22249  
633 West Fifth Street, 47<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90071-2066  
(213) 489-1600  
Attention: Kenneth H. Ohriner

**17. MAINTENANCE OF CO-PENDENCY OF PRIOR APPLICATION**

- ☒ A petition, fee and response has been filed to extend the term in the pending **prior** application until May 22, 2000. A copy of the petition for extension of time in the **prior** application is attached.

**18. CONDITIONAL PETITIONS FOR EXTENSION OF TIME IN PRIOR APPLICATION**

- ☐ A conditional petition for extension of time is being filed in the pending **prior** application. A copy of the conditional petition for extension of time in the **prior** application is attached.

**19. ABANDONMENT OF PRIOR APPLICATION**

- ☐ Please abandon the prior application at a time while the prior application is pending or when the petition for extension of time or to revive in that application is granted and when this application is granted a filing date so as to make this application co-pending with said prior application. At the same time, please add the words "now abandoned" to the amendment of the specification set forth in Item 13 above.

Respectfully submitted,

LYON & LYON LLP

Dated: May 22, 2000

By: Kenneth H. Ohriner  
Kenneth H. Ohriner  
Reg. No. 31,646

633 West Fifth Street, Suite 4700  
Los Angeles, California 90071-2066  
(213) 489-1600 - Fax (213) 955-0440



**22249**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosure  
Copy of Petition for Extension of Time - 2 Months  
Serial No. 09/193,746